

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/604,120

Examiner

Tianjie Chen

Applicant(s)

ARMAGOST ET AL.

Art Unit

2627

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to Response filed on 10/31/06
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 2-22.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

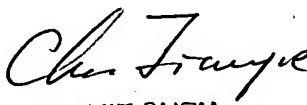
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☒ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☒ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. The following changes to the drawings have been requested by the examiner and agreed upon by applicant:

- Fig. 41C should be renumbered as Fig. 42.

In order to avoid abandonment of the application, applicant must make these above agreed upon drawing changes.

Reasons for Allowance

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Claims 2-22 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

- With regard to claims 2 and 18, as the closest reference of record, Hidano et al (US 5,442,500) shows a magazine-based data cartridge library including: a frame; a shelf system, operatively attached to the frame, for supporting at least two data cartridge magazines and comprising at least one shelf; a cartridge transport device, operatively attached to the frame, for moving a data cartridge between a data cartridge magazine and a drive; **but fails to show** drive bay assembly comprising; a housing structure that defines a first open side which is exposed to the cartridge transport device; a second open side which is exposed to a space that is operator accessible, and a passageway extending between the first and second open sides; a housing plug that is attached to the housing and faces the second open side; and a sled for holding a drive that has a front side with a receptacle for receiving a data cartridge and a back side with a plug interface for receiving electrical signals; the sled comprising: a sled frame that

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extends from a first end to a second end and is capable of holding a drive such that the receptacle of a drive is adjacent to the first end and the plug interface of the drive is adjacent to the second end; and electrical connection means for establishing an electrical connection between the plug interface of a drive and a sled plug that faces toward the first end of the sled and is capable of mating with the housing plug; wherein when the sled is positioned in the passageway such that the first end of the frame is adjacent to the first open side and the second end of the frame is adjacent to the second open side, the housing plug faces the sled plug.

- With regard to independent claim 22, as the closest reference of record, Hidano et al (US 5,442,500) shows a magazine-based data cartridge library including: a frame; a shelf system, operatively attached to the frame, for supporting at least two data cartridge magazines and comprising at least one shelf; a cartridge transport device, operatively attached to the frame, for moving a data cartridge between a data cartridge magazine and a drive; but fails to show a magazine transport device, operatively attached to the frame, for moving a data cartridge magazine; and a drive bay assembly for holding the drive; a drive bay, which accommodates drives exposed to the cartridge transport device and second open side exposed to a space that is operator accessible and a passageway for the storage medium passing through in loading process extending between the first and second open sides.
- Applicant asserts: the insertion of a drive into the library is accomplished by pushing a sled with the drive into the housing such that the sled plugs and the housing plugs engage one another. Conversely, removal of a drive from the

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library is accomplished by extracting the sled and drive from the housing, which causes the sled plugs and housing plugs) to disengage from one another. Consequently, the drive bay eliminates the need for an operator to spend time disconnecting/connecting cables from plugs associated with the rear face of the drive during the extraction/insertion of a drive. Further, since the drive is attached to the sled and not a fixed frame within the library, the drive bay eliminates the need to spend time detaching/attaching a drive from/to such a frame (Specification, pp. 28-29).

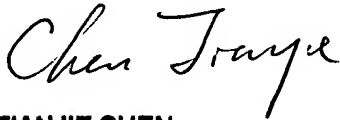
3. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tianjie Chen whose telephone number is 571-272-7570. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:00-4:30, Mon-Fri.

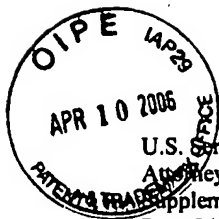
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Hoa Nguyen can be reached on 571-272-7579. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



**TIANJIE CHEN
PRIMARY EXAMINER**



U.S. Ser. No. 10/604,120
Attorney Docket No. 1046_026 (SL054)
Supplemental Amendment
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REPLACEMENT SHEET 1

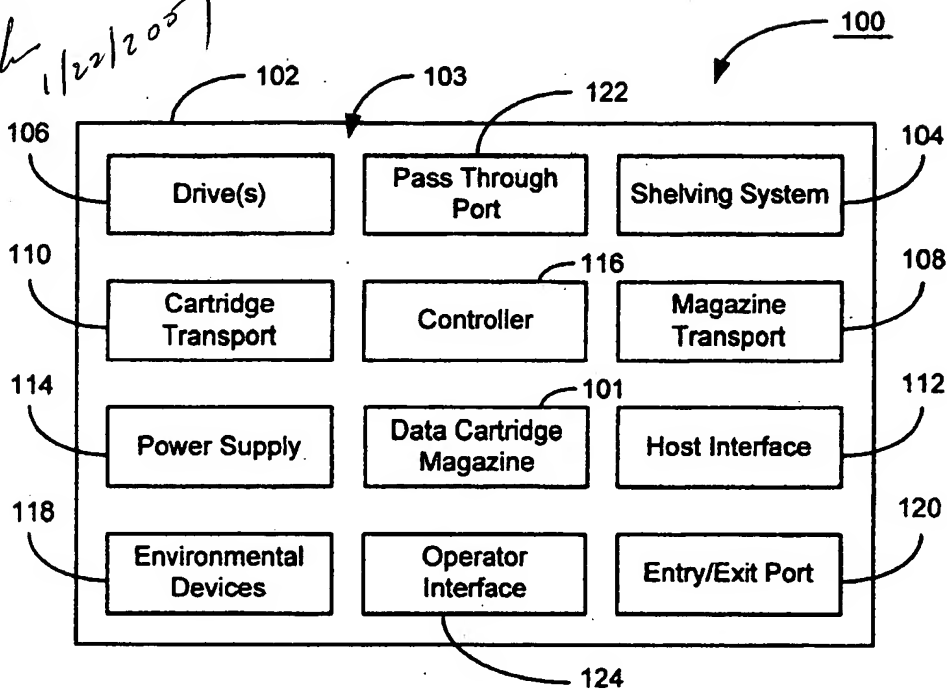


FIG. 1

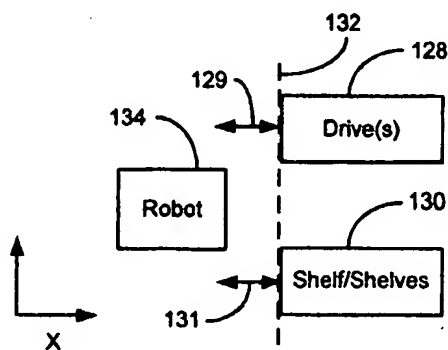


FIG. 2A